GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1567
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Procurement of Foodgrains
Anwar Shri Tariq

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has slowed down the procurement of foodgrains due to shortage of storage space, if so, the details thereof;
(b) the corrective steps taken/proposed in this regard;
(c) whether any scheme is being implemented in the rural areas for providing assistance for creation of storage capacity; and
(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the capacity added during the last two years, year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a): No Madam. The procurement of wheat in Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16 was 280.88 LMT against 280.23 Lakh Metric Tonnes (LMT) in RMS 2014-15 and the procurement of paddy in terms of rice, in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2015-16 till 02.12.2015 was 141.26 LMT against 107.26 LMT in corresponding period in KMS 2014-15. Total procurement of paddy in terms of rice, in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15 was 321.65 LMT. Thus, the Government has not gone slow in procurement for wheat and rice. Further, there is no shortage of storage capacity for the stocks procured under central pool. As on 01.11.2015, storage capacity of 806.46 LMT (Covered − 626.49 LMT and Covered and Plinth (CAP) − 179.97 LMT) was available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies against central pool stock of 411.98 Lakh MT.
(b): Does not arise.
(c) & (d): Yes Madam. In order to provide the storage facility to farmers in the rural areas, the Government of India through Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing a capital investment subsidy scheme Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), which is a sub scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM) for construction of scientific storage structures. Subsidy upto 33.33% of the capital cost is extended to eligible promoters for construction of such storage capacity.
The Scheme has been temporality stopped since 05.08.2014 for promoters of General Category due to exhaustion of funds. However, as the funds are available for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) and NER categories, the Scheme continues to be implemented for such promoters.
The capacity added during the last two years is as below.
2013-14
102.78 Lakh MT
2014-15
44.83 Lakh MT
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